

GROUNDWATER

Building an understanding of groundwater
at Santa Susana Field Laboratory



ACRONYMS^a

CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), also known as Superfund, a United States federal law designed to clean up sites contaminated with hazardous substances
CFOU	Chatsworth Formation Operable Unit – SSFL is divided into two operable units for the purposes of site characterization and cleanup. CFOU refers to the groundwater and unweathered bedrock portions of the site.
DNAPL	Dense Non Aqueous Phase Liquid: A separate phase (immiscible in water) liquid consisting of a solution of organic compounds (e.g., chlorinated hydrocarbons) and which is denser than water.
LNAPL	Light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid: A separate phase liquid (immiscible in water) consisting of a solution of organic compounds (e.g., gasoline) and which is less dense than water.
MCL	Maximum contaminant level – The highest concentration of a chemical permissible in a public water supply.
Mg/L	Micrograms per liter – A measure of the amount of dissolved solids in a solution in terms of micrograms of solute per liter of solution.
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act - enacted in 1976, is the principal Federal law in the United States governing the disposal of solid waste and hazardous waste
TCE	Trichloroethylene –a chlorinated hydrocarbon commonly used as an industrial solvent.
VOC	Volatile organic compound - Organic chemical compounds which have significant vapor pressures and which can affect the environment and human health.

^a Some definitions modified from: Fetter, C. W. Applied Hydrogeology, Third Edition. Upper Saddle River: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1995